

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A biomass gasification system comprising[[;]]:
a gasification furnace which generates a fuel gas from biomass;
a reforming device which attains a process temperature at which ~~the~~^a tar component within the fuel gas is thermally cracked, ~~said reforming device being~~ connected to a supply system which feeds fuel gas from said gasification furnace to a utilization system; and
a fuel gas induction system ~~able to~~^{that} feeds the fuel gas from said reforming device to said gasification furnace ~~for use~~ as fuel to power ~~the~~ operation of said gasification furnace during ~~the~~^a time when said reforming device has not yet attained a process temperature.
2. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The biomass gasification system according to claim 1, wherein combustion turning control means is provided to select a fossil fuel or fuel gas as the fuel to be combusted to drive the gasification furnace.
3. (Currently Amended) A biomass gasification system operating method comprising[[;]]:
~~a step that~~^{directing} fuel gas is directed from a reforming device, within which ~~the~~^a temperature of the fuel gas is increased to a point at which ~~the~~^a tar component within the fuel gas generated from biomass in a gasification furnace is thermally cracked, to said gasification furnace ~~for use~~ as fuel to be combusted by said gasification furnace during ~~the~~^a time when the temperature of said reforming device is below a process temperature.
4. (Currently Amended) [[A]]The biomass gasification system operating method according to claim 3, wherein initial operation of said gasification furnace is driven by ~~the~~ combustion of fossil fuel after which said gasification furnace operation is powered by ~~the~~ combus-

tion of fuel gas supplied from said reforming device during the time when the temperature of said reforming device is below the process temperature.